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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

DECEMBER 1983

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Message from Commissioner Malloy ...

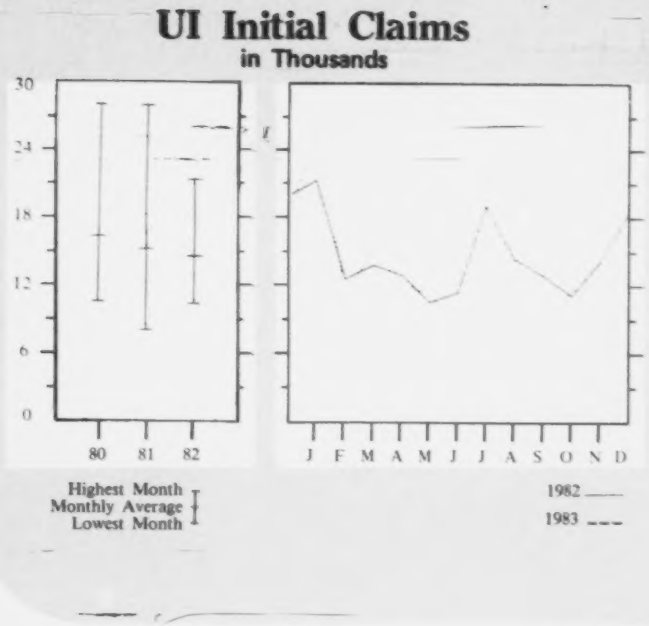
EMPLOYERS CAN RECEIVE UP TO $10,000 REIMBURSEMENT OF WAGES PAID TO QUALIFIED VETERANS IN TRAINING PROGRAMS CERTIFIED BY THE VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE (VETS) OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION.

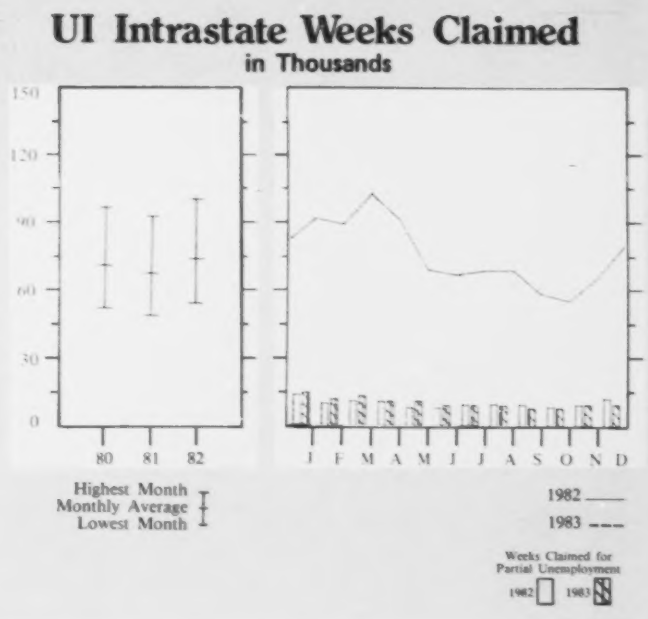
KOREAN CONFLICT OR VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS CAN QUALIFY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VETS PROGRAM IF THEY HAVE BEEN UNEMPLOYED FOR AT LEAST 15 OF THE 20 WEEKS PRIOR TO FILING AN APPLICATION. EMPLOYERS MAY PARTICIPATE BY CERTIFYING THEIR INTENTION TO EMPLOY THE VETERAN ON A PERMANENT BASIS AFTER THE TRAINING IS COMPLETED, GUARANTEEING THE VETERAN'S WAGES WILL BE COMPARABLE TO THOSE NORMALLY PAID EMPLOYEES IN TRAINING AND THAT NO CURRENT EMPLOYEES WILL BE DISPLACED.

EMPLOYERS WILL PROVIDE DIRECT TRAINING TO THE VETERANS UNDER VETS PROGRAM GUIDELINES. GENERALLY, THE TRAINING MUST LAST SIX TO NINE MONTHS ALTHOUGH SHORTER PERIODS MAY BE APPROVED AND LONGER PERIODS ARE ALLOWABLE FOR VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES. THE TRAINING MUST BE PROVIDED FOR EMPLOYMENT IN GROWTH INDUSTRIES, IN OCCUPATIONS REQUIRING TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS OR IN OCCUPATIONS WHERE DEMAND EXCEEDS SUPPLY. IF ALL REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, THE EMPLOYER CAN RECEIVE 50 PERCENT OF THE VETERAN'S STARTING SALARY DURING THE TRAINING PROGRAM UP TO A MAXIMUM OF $10,000 PER VETERAN.

THE VETS PROGRAM WAS ESTABLISHED LAST YEAR UNDER THE EMERGENCY VETERANS' JOB TRAINING ACT. THE PROGRAM BECAME EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1983 AND IS AUTHORIZED FOR TWO YEARS.

ANY VETERAN OR EMPLOYER INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR VETS PROGRAM CERTIFICATION OR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SHOULD CONTACT THE NEAREST LOCAL OFFICE OF THE MAINE JOB SERVICE OR THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION IN TOGUS.





1982 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: A PRELIMINARY REPORT

THE MAINE CENSUS DATA CENTER, WHICH RESIDES IN THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HAS JUST RECEIVED PRELIMINARY REPORTS FOR THE 1982 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE. ACCORDING TO THESE REPORTS, THERE WERE 7,003 MAINE FARMS IN 1982 COMPARED TO 6,775 IN 1978. THE 1982 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE ALSO INDICATES THAT INCREASES IN THE NUMBER OF FARMS WERE RECORDED BY 13 OF THE 16 COUNTIES, WITH THE LARGEST GAINS REGISTERED BY YORK AND OXFORD COUNTIES. THE NUMBER OF FARMS DECREASED IN AROOSTOOK, KENNEBEC, AND WALDO COUNTIES.

LAND IN FARMS TOTALED 1,468,674 ACRES IN 1982 COMPARED TO 1,500,390 IN 1978. THE COUNTIES WERE EVENLY SPLIT WITH EIGHT RECORDING GAINS AND EIGHT RECORDING LOSSES. HANCOCK COUNTY RECORDED THE LARGEST GAIN IN FARMLAND ACREAGE WHILE AROOSTOOK COUNTY REGISTERED THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL LOSS.

THE SALES OF LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, AND THEIR PRODUCTS WERE $256.7 MILLION, ACCOUNTING FOR 64 PERCENT OF TOTAL AGRICULTURAL SALES DURING 1982. SALES OF POULTRY AND THEIR PRODUCTS WERE $135.6 MILLION. DAIRY PRODUCTS AMOUNTING TO $95.4 MILLION WERE SOLD FROM 1,266 FARMS.

THE SALES OF CROPS AMOUNTED TO $143 MILLION. BY HARVESTED ACREAGE, THE LEADING CROPS WERE IRISH POTATOES, WITH 24.6 MILLION HUNDRED WEIGHT FROM 99,249 ACRES; OATS, WITH 2.5 MILLION BUSHELS FROM 41,051 ACRES; AND CORN FOR SILAGE OR GREEN CHOP, WITH 486,638 TONS FROM 32,540 ACRES. OTHER CROPS WERE ALFALFA, 24,210 ACRES CORN FOR GRAIN, 8,020 ACRES; AND GREEN PEAS, 7,835 ACRES.

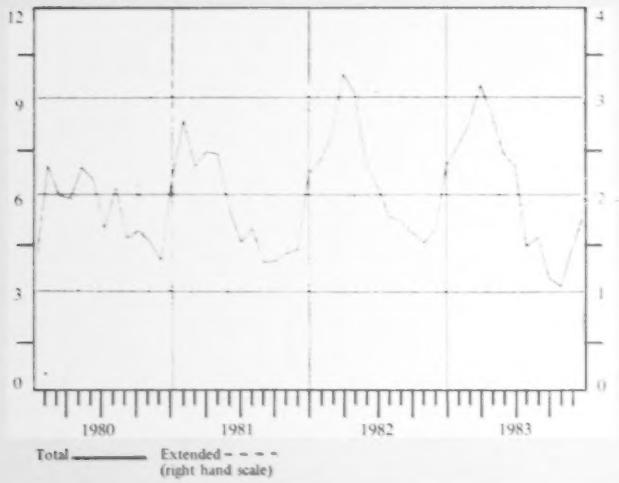
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

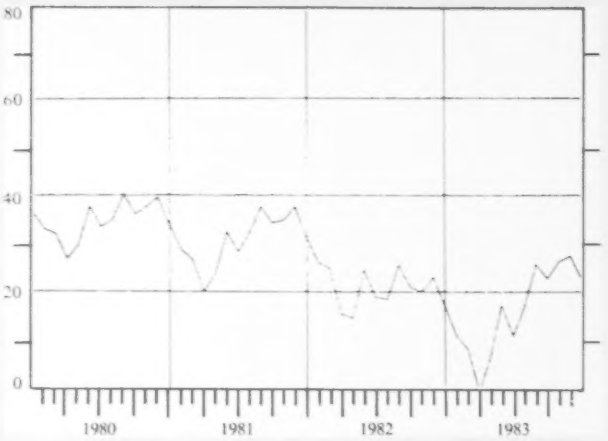
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

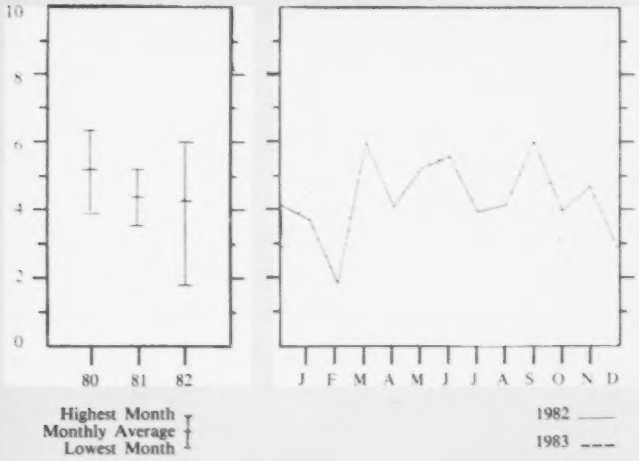
in Thousands

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary 1/	414.5	415.6	407.9	100.9	100.1	96.8	34.1	34.4	33.7
Total Manufacturing	106.3	106.8	105.6	17.1	16.9	16.8	11.3	11.4	10.5
Durable Goods	39.0	38.8	38.6	6.8	6.7	6.5	2.1	2.1	1.8
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	12.3	12.1	11.8	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	*
Metals and Machinery	15.3	15.0	14.3	5.8	5.7	5.7	1.8	1.7	1.5
Other Durable Goods 3/	11.4	11.7	12.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3
Nondurable Goods	67.3	68.0	67.0	10.3	10.2	10.3	9.2	9.3	8.7
Food and Kindred Products	7.8	8.2	8.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.9	0.9	0.9
Textile Mill Products	7.2	7.0	6.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	1.5	1.4
Apparel	5.1	5.2	5.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.1	0.1	*
Paper and Allied Products	17.6	17.7	17.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.7	0.7	0.7
Leather and Leather Products	19.4	19.7	20.0	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.2
Footwear (except Rubber)	16.2	16.5	16.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.8	3.0	2.6
All Other	3.2	3.2	3.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	10.2	10.2	9.9	4.8	4.7	4.7	2.6	2.5	2.5
Total Nonmanufacturing	308.2	308.8	302.3	83.8	83.2	80.0	22.8	23.0	23.2
Contract Construction	16.9	18.1	17.0	4.1	4.4	4.0	1.3	1.3	1.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	17.8	17.8	17.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	1.2	1.3	1.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	90.8	90.1	87.4	27.6	27.0	26.1	8.2	8.1	8.4
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	18.3	18.3	17.8	9.0	8.9	8.5	1.7	1.7	1.6
Service and Other Nonmanufacturing	79.5	79.3	79.4	22.8	22.7	21.7	7.3	7.4	7.4
Government	84.9	85.2	83.2	14.3	14.2	13.7	3.1	3.2	3.2
Federal	18.2	18.3	18.0	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
State and Local 5/	66.7	66.9	65.2	12.9	12.8	12.3	2.8	2.9	2.9
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 37, 38; Portland - 32, 37, 38; Lewiston - 25, 32, 37. 4/Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Lewiston - 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39. 5/Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50.

New Applications For Work

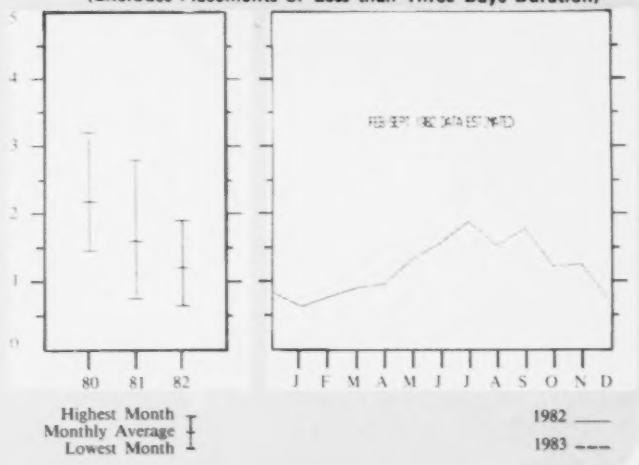
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1982	1981	1980
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	314.31	310.45	304.56	40.4	39.7	40.5	7.78	7.82	7.52	$7.22	$6.66	$6.00
Durable Goods	325.62	321.19	326.41	40.4	39.8	40.7	8.06	8.07	8.02	7.59	6.97	6.27
Lumber and Wood Products	292.00	308.66	283.29	39.3	40.4	39.4	7.43	7.64	7.19	6.87	6.52	6.08
Metals and Machinery	319.19	306.00	305.78	41.4	40.0	41.1	7.71	7.65	7.44	7.15	6.61	5.87
Other Durable Goods	378.14	357.10	392.18	40.4	38.9	41.5	9.36	9.18	9.45	8.84	7.98	7.09
Nondurable Goods	307.44	304.13	291.28	40.4	39.6	40.4	7.61	7.68	7.21	7.00	6.48	5.85
Food and Kindred Products	226.15	216.04	231.65	36.3	35.3	38.1	6.23	6.12	6.08	5.84	5.50	5.01
Textile Mill Products	262.04	254.40	221.20	43.6	42.4	40.0	6.01	6.00	5.53	5.49	5.17	4.79
Apparel	194.71	212.22	196.50	36.6	38.1	37.5	5.32	5.57	5.24	5.23	4.97	4.49
Paper and Allied Products	525.54	528.22	488.83	46.1	44.5	46.6	11.40	11.87	10.49	10.10	9.27	8.31
Leather and Leather Products	211.30	204.59	205.33	37.2	36.6	37.4	5.68	5.59	5.49	5.46	5.10	4.72
Other Nondurable Goods	266.95	265.05	250.78	39.2	39.5	38.7	6.81	6.71	6.48	6.23	5.75	5.23
PORTLAND SMSA												
Manufacturing	299.14	304.34	299.30	38.4	37.9	39.8	7.79	8.03	7.52	7.19	6.49	5.85
LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA												
Manufacturing	251.62	244.61	239.98	39.5	39.2	39.6	6.37	6.24	6.06	5.96	5.57	5.08

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	218.8	218.7	208.3
Unemployed	19.0	17.7	16.2
(Percent)	8.7	8.1	7.8
Resident Employed	199.8	201.0	192.1

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec
(1967=100) All Items	303.5	303.1	292.4	292.4

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.1
Percent Change from Last December	+3.8
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+3.8

1/ Preliminary estimate 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE Statewide	513.6	516.3	504.9	472.9	477.3	463.0	40.7	39.0	41.9	7.9	7.6	8.3
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor-Brewer LMA	44,300	45,000	42,300	41,100	41,700	39,100	3,200	3,300	3,200	7.2	7.3	7.6
Biddeford-Sanford LMA	31,600	31,800	31,700	29,200	29,500	28,800	2,400	2,300	2,900	7.6	7.2	9.1
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	38,200	38,500	37,700	35,100	35,600	34,600	3,100	2,900	3,100	8.1	7.5	8.2
Portland SMSA	99,800	99,600	96,100	94,400	94,200	90,200	5,400	5,400	5,900	5.4	5.4	6.1
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	28,760	28,710	28,370	26,750	26,850	26,290	2,010	1,860	2,080	7.0	6.5	7.3
Bath-Brunswick	23,080	23,600	24,350	21,680	22,220	23,050	1,400	1,380	1,300	6.1	5.8	5.3
Belfast	10,730	10,710	10,400	9,350	9,540	8,970	1,380	1,170	1,430	12.9	10.9	13.8
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	7,500	7,580	6,830	6,830	7,000	6,230	670	580	600	8.9	7.7	8.8
Calais-Eastport	13,830	14,000	14,030	12,230	12,520	12,200	1,600	1,480	1,830	11.6	10.6	13.0
Caribou-Presque Isle	20,090	20,170	19,150	16,680	16,860	16,850	3,410	3,310	2,300	17.0	16.4	12.0
Central Penobscot	3,500	3,550	3,540	3,270	3,330	3,260	230	220	280	6.6	6.2	7.9
Dover-Foxcroft	6,800	6,660	6,740	6,360	6,230	6,240	440	430	500	6.5	6.5	7.4
Ellsworth	19,130	19,340	18,560	17,570	18,070	17,020	1,560	1,270	1,540	8.2	6.6	8.3
Farmington	12,680	13,000	12,950	11,730	11,770	12,040	1,150	1,230	910	8.9	9.5	7.0
Fort Kent-Allagash	4,930	4,900	4,550	4,540	4,550	4,060	390	350	490	7.9	7.1	10.8
Greenville	1,630	1,500	1,780	1,550	1,440	1,600	80	60	180	4.9	4.0	10.1
Houlton	4,700	4,730	4,690	4,230	4,240	4,170	470	490	520	10.0	10.4	11.1
Lincoln-Howland	5,560	5,560	5,430	5,200	5,180	4,990	360	380	400	6.5	6.8	8.1
Livermore Falls	5,900	5,880	5,700	5,210	5,220	5,090	690	660	610	11.7	11.2	10.7
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,300	4,250	4,310	3,790	3,790	3,620	510	460	690	11.9	10.8	16.0
Mechanic Falls	2,470	2,430	2,350	2,180	2,160	2,030	290	270	320	11.7	11.1	13.6
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,020	5,010	5,080	4,730	4,710	4,760	290	300	320	5.8	6.0	6.3
Patten-Island Falls	2,250	2,290	2,310	2,080	2,120	2,060	170	170	250	7.6	7.4	10.8
Rockland	16,910	17,080	17,130	15,440	15,680	15,520	1,470	1,400	1,610	8.7	8.2	9.4
Rumford	19,840	19,850	19,670	18,190	18,270	17,840	1,650	1,580	1,830	8.3	8.0	9.3
Sebago Lake Region	10,340	10,300	10,100	9,600	9,580	9,260	740	720	840	7.2	7.0	8.3
Skowhegan	20,820	21,050	21,390	18,560	18,830	19,120	2,260	2,220	2,270	10.9	10.5	10.6
Kittery-York	19,260	19,560	17,800	18,530	18,920	16,960	730	640	840	3.8	3.3	4.7
Southwest Penobscot	7,830	8,150	8,040	6,900	7,350	7,020	930	800	1,020	11.9	9.8	12.8
Waterville	21,540	21,520	21,780	19,860	19,890	20,040	1,680	1,630	1,740	7.8	7.6	8.0
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,641.6	1,619.2	n/a	1,565.6	1,505.8	n/a	76.0	113.5	n/a	4.6	7.0
Massachusetts	3,052.0	3,064.0	2,989.4	2,875.0	2,894.0	2,776.7	177.0	171.0	212.7	5.8	5.6	7.1
New Hampshire	n/a	509.0	486.5	n/a	486.5	449.2	n/a	22.5	37.3	n/a	4.4	7.7
Rhode Island	489.2	490.2	481.2	456.1	459.8	433.1	33.1	30.4	48.1	6.8	6.2	10.0
Vermont	n/a	265.5	266.4	n/a	251.5	247.1	n/a	14.0	19.3	n/a	5.3	7.2
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	5,971.3	5,842.8	n/a	5,657.4	5,411.9	n/a	313.9	430.9	n/a	5.3	7.4
UNITED STATES 3/	111,795	112,147	110,477	102,803	103,018	98,849	8,992	9,129	11,628	8.0	8.1	10.5

Area Definitions
LMA - Labor Market Area
SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note
n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes
1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
3/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND SMSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	12,655	9,528	15,440	1,432	1,069	2,112	952	668	1,128
Insured Unemployment Rate *	3.2	2.4	3.9	1.7	1.3	2.5	2.9	2.1	3.5

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

AGRICULTURE CENSUS DATA FOR MAINE ALSO REVEALED THESE FACTS:

OF THE TOTAL FARMS IN MAINE, 912 HAD GROSS SALES OF $100,000 OR MORE; 4,128 REPORTED SALES OF LESS THAN $10,000.

THE AVERAGE AGE OF FARM OPERATORS WAS 49.8 YEARS; 969 WERE UNDER 35, AND 2,592 WERE 55 OR OLDER.

WOMEN OPERATED 535 FARMS OR 8 PERCENT OF THE STATE TOTAL.

FIFTY-TWO PERCENT OF THE OPERATORS REPORTED FARMING AS THEIR PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION, BUT 46 PERCENT OF ALL OPERATORS WORKED 100 DAYS OR MORE OFF THE FARM.

NINETY PERCENT OF THE FARMS WERE OPERATED BY INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES AS SOLE PROPRIETORSHIPS; 384 BY PARTNERSHIPS; AND 272 BY CORPORATIONS, OF WHICH 89 PERCENT WERE FAMILY HELD.

NINETY-SIX PERCENT OF THE FARMERS OWNED ALL OR PART OF THE FARMS THEY OPERATED; 4,777 WERE FULLY OWNED; 1,932 PARTLY OWNED; AND 294 WERE OPERATED BY TENANTS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE 1982 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE, OR OTHER CENSUS REPORTS, CONTACT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUREAU OF THE CENSUS BOSTON REGIONAL OFFICE, (617) 223-0226; THE BUREAU'S PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE; (301) 763-4040; OR THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, CENSUS DATA CENTER, (207) 289-2271. SINGLE COPIES OF PRELIMINARY STATE AND COUNTY REPORTS FROM THE 1982 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE MAY BE OBTAINED FOR $1.75 AND $1.50 EACH, RESPECTIVELY, PREPAID FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT OF DOCUMENTS, U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20402.

The Employment Security programs are affiliated with U.S. Employment and Training Administration. Published under Appropriation No. 03444.2

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
Lab 449

DECEMBER 1983

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

Labor Market Information Services